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Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 COME-00 OFA-01 L-03 /025 W
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R 170321Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 913

UNCLAS TOKYO 8021

OES FOR JOHN A. BIRCH

DEPT PASS TO DR. DAVID, AMB. GLENNAN, AND DR. HIATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, JA, US, OCON
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH STA ON UJNR PANELS

1. AT INVITATION OF STA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR UEDA, SCICOUNS MET WITH UEDA, HIS ASSISTANT, SAKAKI, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (UCHIYAMA AND TANAKA) TO DISCUSS CURRENT PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH UJNR PANELS. THESE PROBLEMS, EACH DISCUSSED IN TURN BELOW, WERE (A) RECONSTITUTION OF FORAGE CROP PANEL; (B) RESTRUCTURING OF FIRE SAFETY PANEL; AND (C) SCHEDULING OF NEXT (EIGHTH) UJNR CONFERENCE.

2. RE FORAGE CROP PANEL, SCICOUNS WAS GIVEN COPIES OF FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS, NONE OF WHICH HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO EMBASSY PREVIOUSLY:
(A) LETTER 11/6/74--A.A. HANSON, BELTSVILLE ARC, TO Y. MAKI, HOKKAIDO NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.
(B) LETTER 5/28/75--A.A. HANSON TO T. KAWAI, NATIONAL GRASSLAND RESEARCH INSTITUTE.
(C) LETTER 6/6/75--T. KAWAI TO K.A. HAINES, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DIVISION, ARS, WITH PROPOSAL "EXCHANGE AND EVALUATION OF FORAGE CORP GERM-PLASM." (COPY TO A.A. HANSON)
(D) LETTER 6/9/75--T. KAWAI TO A.A. HANSON, COPY TO K.A. HAINES,
USING ABOVE CORRESPONDENCE FOR REFERENCE, UEDA NOTED THAT THE 10-YEAR PROGRAM ON FORAGE SEEDS HAD BEEN COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY IN MARCH 1975 AND THAT BOTH SIDES HAD AGREED THAT A NEW PROJECT
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SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED ON EXCHANGE AND EVALUATION OF FORAGE CROP

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GERM-PLASM. HOWEVER, LETTER (B) ABOVE STATES THAT NEW PROJECT COULD NOT BE APPROVED BEFORE SPRING OF 1976, SINCE ACTION BY INTERAGENCY STEERING COMMITTEES OF TWO GOVERNMENTS, UJNR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS, AND UJNR CONFERENCE REQUIRED IN SUCCESSION. LETTER (A) STATES THAT A NEW UJNR PANEL WOULD BE REQUIRED IF PROJECT WERE APPROVED, AND THAT THIS IS DESIRABLE TO SHOW THAT PROJECTS ARE COMPLETED AND NEW ONES STARTED. UEDA QUESTIONED NEED FOR NEW PANEL, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT PANEL MEMBERSHIP WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT STA BUDGET FOR GOJ FY 1975 (THROUGH MARCH 31, 1976) INCLUDES A SPECIFIC AMOUNT FOR THIS PANEL, APPROPRIATED ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS PANEL WOULD CONTINUE ITS ACTIVITIES IN 1975. NOT TO USE THIS APPROPRIATION WOULD ENDANGER FUTURE GOJ FISCAL SUPPORT. GOJ VIEWS ON THIS ARE REFLECTED IN LETTER (D). UCHIYAMA STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A MEETING OF GOJ AND USG PANEL REPRESENTATIVES IN TOKYO ASAP TO PERFORM A FINAL EVALUATION OF THE COMPLETED FORAGE SEED PROJECT AND FOR EACH SIDE TO PRESENT AND DISCUSS ITS PROPOSALS FOR NEW GERM-PLASM PROJECT. IF USG UNABLE TO SEND REPS TO TOKYO SOON, GOJ PREPARED TO SEND ONE OFFICIAL TO US TO PURSUE DISCUSSIONS. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT USG NOMINATE NEW CO-CHAIRMAN OF PANEL.
EMBASSY COMMENT: SINCE GERM-PLASM PROJECT HAS OBTAINED NECESSARY GOJ APPROVALS AND GOJ IS PREPARED TO MORE AHEAD WITH COOPERATION ON SUBJECT OF APPARENTLY CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO US (LETTER (A)), IT APPEARS THAT RED TAPE COULD BE CUT BY MAINTAINING TITLE OF ORIGINAL FORAGE CROP PANEL WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT, AS PROJECTS ARE COMPLETED, NEW ONES CAN BE BEGUN, AS IS CASE WITH UJNR MYCOPLASMOSIS PANEL. APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION OF SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF PROJECTS COULD BE OBTAINED BY MEANS OTHER THAN STARTING AND STOPPING PANELS. THIS SEEMS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH VIEWS OF PANEL FOR REVIEW OF US-JAPAN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION.

3. UEDA STATED THAT TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE REACHED COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR A NEW FIRE SAFETY PANEL. DR. WILLENBROCK AT NBS HAS BEEN CONTACT. RESIDUAL PROBLEMS ARE: (A) GOJ WANTS TO LIMIT SCOPE OF PANEL TO BUILDING FIRE SAFETY, WHILE US WANTS BROADER SCOPE. UEDA POINTED OUT THAT UJNR FOREST PANEL WISHES TO INCLUDE FOREST FIRES WITHIN ITS SCOPE AND THEREFORE GOJ WOULD NOT WANT THIS SUBJECT UNDER FIRE SAFETYPANEL, (B) STA, IN RESPONSE
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TO US DESIRES, IS NOW CONSIDERING BRINGING IN UNIVERSITY SCIENTISTS TO WORK ON PROJECTS ON CASE-BY CASE BASIS, AFTER HAVING DISCUSSED MATTER WITH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. SCIENTISTS FROM PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES WOULD BE CLASSIFIED AS "OBSERVERS," AS IS DONE IN OTHER PANELS. STA WOULD LIKE TO SEE NEW PANEL APPROVED AT NEXT (EIGHTH) UJNR CONFERENCE. UEDA SUGGESTS THAT CO-CHAIRMEN CONTINUE TO CARRY ON PLANNING DISCUSSIONS. KOIZUMI OF BUILDING RESEARCH INSTITUTE IS STA REP; WILLENBROCK OF NBS IS PRESUMABLY USG REP.

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(KAMAGOE IS NOW RETIRED AND WORKING FOR PRIVATE UNIVERSITY AND IS THEREFORE CLASSIFIED AS "OBSERVER").

4. UEDA POINTED OUT THAT US IS TO HOST NEXT UJNR CONFERENCE, SCHEDULING OF WHICH HAS BEEN DELAYED. HE PROPOSES THAT IT NOW BE HELD IN NOVEMBER 1975, AFTER EMPEROR'S VISIT TO US, SINCE IT COULD THEN IMMEDIATELY PRECEDE OR FOLLOW THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PANEL FOR OVERALL REVIEW OF US-JAPAN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, SCHEDULED FOR THAT PERIOD. SERVERAL PARTICIPANTS IN LATTER PANEL ARE ALSO INVOLVED IN UJNR CONFERENCE.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE TO ISSUES RAISED IN PARAS 2-4 ABOVE. HODGSON

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